

8. The chewable mineral supplement of claim 1 wherein said whipping agent is selected from the group consisting of egg albumin, modified milk protein, gelatin, milk protein, vegetable protein, and mixtures thereof.

9. The chewable mineral supplement of claim 1 which additionally contains a graining compound selected from the group consisting of fondant sugar, sugar, sorbitol crystals, lactose and mixtures thereof which is present in amounts from about 0.5 to about 4% by weight.

10. The chewable mineral supplement of claim 1 wherein the mineral compound is selected from a group consisting of salts of lithium, sodium, potassium, magnesium, calcium, phosphorous, iron, zinc, and mixtures thereof.

11. The chewable mineral supplement of claim 1 wherein the mineral compound is present in an amount of about 15 to about 40% by weight.

12. The chewable mineral supplement of claim 1 wherein the mineral compound is a calcium compound selected from the group consisting of calcium gluconate, calcium chloride, calcium lactate, calcium phosphate, monobasic calcium phosphate, dibasic calcium phosphate, tribasic calcium phosphate, calcium carbonate, calcium tartrate, calcium glycerophosphate, calcium levulinate, calcium hypophosphite, calcium sulfate, calcium gluceptate, calcium chelates, calcium amino acid chelate, ground limeatone, ground oyster shells, and mixtures thereof.

13. The chewable mineral supplement of claim 1 wherein the mineral compound is a lithium compound selected from the group consisting of organic and inorganic salts wherein the anion is chloride, carbonate, citrate, sulfate, bromide and mixtures thereof.

14. The chewable mineral supplement of claim 1 wherein the mineral compound is a sodium compound selected from the group consisting of organic and inorganic salts of sodium wherein the anionic portion of the salt is acetate, ascorbate, bicarbonate, carbonate, chloride, citrate, hypophosphite, lactate, phosphate monobasic, phosphate dibasic, phosphate tribasic, sulfate, tartrate and mixtures thereof.

15. The chewable mineral supplement of claim 1 wherein the mineral compound is a potassium compound selected from the group consisting of inorganic and organic salts wherein the anionic portion of the salt is acetate, bicarbonate, bitartrate, bromide, carbonate, chloride, citrate, gluconate, phosphate monobasic, phosphate dibasic, phosphate tribasic, sulfate, tartrate and mixtures thereof.

16. The chewable mineral supplement of claim 1 wherein the mineral compound is a magnesium compound selected from the group consisting of organic and inorganic salts of magnesium wherein the anionic portion of the salt is acetate, carbonate, hydroxide, chloride, citrate, dibasic citrate, hydroxide, lactate, oxide, phosphate monobasic, phosphate dibasic, phosphate tribasic, trisilicate sulfate, as well as the composition formed as the co-precipitated gel of aluminum hydroxide and magnesium carbonate and mixtures thereof.

17. The chewable mineral supplement of claim 1 wherein the mineral compound is an iron compound selected from the group consisting of organic and inorganic salts and chelates of iron such as reduced iron, ferrous sulfate, iron ammonium citrate, ferrous carbonate, ferrous chloride, ferrous fumarate, ferroglycine

sulfate, ferronacin, ferrous carbonate mass, ferrous carbonate saccharated, ferrous citrate, ferrous gluconate, ferrous lactate, ferrous sulfate, ferrous succinate, iron chelates, iron chelate with magnesium trisilicate and mixtures thereof.

18. The chewable mineral supplement of claim 1 wherein the mineral compound is a phosphorous compound selected from the group consisting of salts wherein the anionic portion is a phosphate and the cationic portion is sodium, potassium, magnesium, iron, calcium, lithium, zinc and mixtures thereof.

19. The chewable mineral supplement of claim 1 wherein the mineral compound is a zinc compound selected from the group consisting of inorganic and organic salts wherein the anionic portion of the salt is carbonate, chloride, citrate, and mixtures thereof.

20. The chewable mineral supplement of claim 3 wherein the sugar is sucrose, sorbitol, mannitol, liquid sugars, and mixtures thereof.

21. The chewable mineral supplement of claim 1 wherein the mineral compound is calcium carbonate.

22. The chewable mineral supplement of claim 1 further containing an absorption enhancer.

23. The chewable mineral supplement of claim 22 wherein said absorption enhancer is selected from the group consisting of vitamin D, lysine, arginine, lactose, vitamin D2, vitamin D3, calcitrol and mixtures thereof.

24. The chewable mineral supplement of claim 1 further containing an antifatulent.

25. The chewable mineral supplement of claim 24 wherein said antifatulent is simethicone.

26. A chewable mineral supplement having a penetration hardness of 2 mm or more, which comprises:

(A) from about 40 to about 85% by weight of a nougat candy base comprising,

(1) a syrup component comprising:

(a) corn syrup in an amount of about 13 to about 41% by weight having a dextrose equivalence from about 35 to about 55;

(b) sugar in an amount of about 15 to about 53% such that the ratio of sugar to corn syrup is from about 1:1 to about 2:1,

(2) a whipped component comprising at least one whipping agent present in an amount of from about 0.1 to about 1%;

(B) an edible polyol in an amount of from about 1.5 to about 6%;

(C) a mineral compound in an amount of about 3 to about 40%;

(D) a graining compound in an amount from about 0.5 to about 4%; and

(E) a water content of about 2 to about 4.5%; all percents herein are by weight of the final chewable mineral supplement.

27. The chewable mineral supplement of claim 26 further containing a fat component.

28. The chewable mineral supplement of claim 27 wherein said fat component is selected from the group consisting of fractionated fat, hydrogenated oils, partially hydrogenated oils, unsaturated oils, coconut oil, palm oil, palm kernel oil, cottonseed oil, safflower oil, sunflower oil, soy oil, corn oil and mixtures thereof.

29. A method for preparing a chewable mineral supplement having a penetration hardness of 2 mm or more, which comprises:

preparing a nougat candy base comprising:

a syrup component comprising: